



Sullivan Community Newsletter

Vol. 33 No. 6

Sullivan, NH

May – June 2014

10th Annual Sullivan Fire Department Yard Sale Sullivan Fire Dept. May 23 & 24

Once again the Sullivan Fire and Rescue can help you with your spring cleaning! They are accepting items for a yard sale fundraiser which will be held on May 23rd and 24th. Donations of all types (except oversized furniture and televisions) are being accepted. To arrange donation pick up or drop off please contact Bonnie Blanchard at 847-9680 or leave a message at the fire station at 847-9020.

The Yard Sale will be held at the Fire Station, rain or shine from 9:00AM – 3:00PM.

Plant and Book Sale

**Saturday - May 24th from 9 am - 1 pm
Sullivan Library**

It's time to think about gardens! Come to the Friends of the Library sale and select hardy Sullivan-grown plants for your garden and some books to read at the beach. A fine selection of perennials and other plants will be available for \$3 each. And, there's always a variety of books for your browsing, so come take a look!

Also this year there will be hot coffee and an assortment of baked goods.

Angel Wing Farm Stand 2014 Season Opening

Steve & Carol Sullivan are pleased to announce the opening of Angel Wing Farm Stand on **Saturday, May 24, 2014, between the hours of 10 am-2 pm**. Angel Wing Farm, located at 282 Centre Street in Sullivan, NH, is just one facet of Sullivan Center for Sustainable Agriculture (SCSA). We also produce biochar for sale and provide educational experiences in sustainable living. It is our goal to provide our customers with the highest quality, nutrient rich and locally grown produce. It is our pleasure to create a friendly, local community marketing experience. We are looking forward to seeing our customers, neighbors and friends after this long winter. We invite you to stop by on Saturday May 24th (Memorial Day Weekend) to see what's new at SCSA. Look for the "Open" flag across from the old Sullivan School playground! Check us out at: <http://sullivancsa.com/>

ENERGY INSIGHTS FROM AN EXPERT Rescuing & Renovating an 1830's Cape June 10 at 7 p.m. - Town Hall

Conservation Commission Chairman Eric White has recently rehabilitated a house in Dover, following the LEED standards for energy savings. Step by step, he converted this 1830's house into a prize-winning, comfortable home, now labeled Energy Star. Come to learn what you might do to save energy in your home or just to enjoy the story.

Sponsored by the Sullivan Conservation Commission and the Sullivan Energy Committee

Taxpayer Assistance – Low and Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief
(see inside)

“Library Footnotes”

It has been so nice to have some old friends and some new friends using the library this month. A hearty thanks to the staff at the **Nelson Elementary School** for bringing their students to visit the library in April. We enjoyed having all of you discover the treasures within our building. Good luck with your science fair projects!

Speaking of science... Stand back! We're “**sciencing**” at the library this summer! We will offer three programs: [Fizz, Boom, Read](#) for the younger children and elementary age students, [Spark a Reaction](#) for our teens and [Literary Elements](#) for adults. Many thanks to Twinkle Town for providing ice cream certificates for our readers again this year!

The **Third Thursday Book Group** will discuss *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot on May 15. Copies of the book are available at the library and this title is also available in eBook and audiobook formats through NH Downloadable Books.

Did you know we have **Cut the Carbon kits** at the library for you to borrow? Each kit comes with a Kill-A-Watt reader and booklets on how to cut energy costs at home.

Due to an insulation project at the library, various parts of the collection will be unavailable April 26 - May 3 and the library will be closed for the day Thursday, May 1.

The next Genealogy Workshop is scheduled for Monday, June 9 from 2 to 4 pm.

Keep up with events on the library web page (www.ci.sullivan.nh.us/content/library/library) or on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Sullivan-Public-Library/77424404019>) where there will be information about the Friends of the Library, genealogy workshops, book groups, meetings, etc.

Thank you to the many folks in our community who give their support to the library in so many ways, from monetary gifts to gently used donations to time and skills. Thanks especially to our anonymous donors, Cliff Dempster, Joy Finucane, Virginia Howard, Nancy Jakway, Peter & Jeanne Jeffries, Eric Martin, Mary Parker, Frank & Donna Philbrick, Chris & Gaynelle Pratt, Patti Wheeler, Chip & Kathy Woodbury, Bonnie Willis and Ginny Yawaski. You are very much appreciated.

Denise McFarland, Librarian

MEMOIR BOOK AVAILABLE **“A Young Minister’s Memoir of Rural New Hampshire** **in the 1950’s - A Time to Sow”** **by Rev. C. Arthur Bradley**

Rev. Bradley was minister to the Gilsum, Stoddard and Sullivan churches in the 1950’s. At that time he was at the beginning of his career in ministry and chose to do it in rural New England. The foreword of the book is written by his son, John Bradley, “The project coincided with a decline in Dad’s health, so the book was a way to put aside the worries about health and recall a moment in his life when he began a career which he would grow to love.” Rev. Bradley completed the book just before he died.

And by a recent Sullivan reader - “It is meaningful to me personally as this man baptized me back in the day. The book reflects not only one man’s remarkable life and experiential accounts of our humble little community but evidences a faith bolstered by his compassion and sincerity. The 1950s decade was one of grand transition and promise merged with remnants of a more conservative, homespun time on the very cusp of social revolution (civil rights, feminist reform, the burgeoning space program). Sullivan, though considerably smaller in population, was a bustling town steeped in a variety of annual celebratory gatherings (community theater, lively school pageantry led by Peg Harris, etc.). The Sullivan Congregational Church was a vital facet of the town’s lifeline, linking the village of East Sullivan with Sullivan Center and establishing a sense of inclusion for all. Rev. Bradley contributed quite actively in that period and served our parish admirably”.

Steve Parker

The book is available to borrow from the Sullivan Library or for purchase at the Cheshire County Historical Society, 246 Main St. in Keene (603 352-1895) for \$12.

From the Archives **by Chris Pratt**

I recently attended the public hearing held by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation in regard to the proposed changes to Route 9 in Sullivan and Roxbury. The meeting was well attended and concerns were articulated about each of the three proposals to build a new bridge over Otter Brook. As the participants learned, the process of constructing a highway today is complex and requires considerations of human, environmental and historical factors not to mention design, engineering and, above all, total cost. As all of this was going through my mind, I remembered when what is now Route 9 was first laid out in 1830. The process hasn't gotten any easier.

The layout of 1830 was somewhat revolutionary for its time because it called for direct connection between communities. From the beginning of our European ancestor's arrival in New England, the concept of a right-of-way (called a highway) from your farm to the village meeting house was guaranteed. Indeed without such a guarantee settlements would have been confined to the villages. Instead people could buy a piece of land anywhere in the town and be assured that they would have right to cross other people's land using the "highways" to get to the outside world. There were three conditions—one that the right-of-way was specifically described by the selectmen and town meeting, that such a right-of-way would be maintained by town taxes and that the town meeting had the power to grant and/or discontinue the highways as they saw fit.

In the early days of our town, highways were created as settlers arrived. Circuitous connections existed to Gilsum, Keene and Stoddard, but the main roads simply served the early settlers. From the time of our incorporation in 1787 until about 1810, most of the highways connected to the town center that was evolving along Centre Street from the Four Corners Cemetery to the Second Meeting House (where the Library is today). The idea of direct connections to other towns was something new.

Around 1830 a Nelson resident named Noah Hardy came up with the idea of a direct connection between Nelson and Keene. This would avoid the steep climb over Sullivan's hills, through Sullivan Center and down the hills into Keene. The layout was a connection to the Keene roads and followed the relatively level "water route" along Otter Brook, then Granite Lake Brook to Munsonville, and on into South Stoddard where there was a connection to the Contoocook River Valley to Hillsborough and eventually Concord.

In those days there was no New Hampshire Department of Transportation. Layouts between communities depended on the cooperation of individual towns. Hardy and his associates appealed to the Court of Common Pleas which acted much like the modern Superior Court. Sullivan made its position known at the March 1830 town meeting by appointing Amos Wardwell as an agent to look out for the town's interest.

The town's interest was clearly the status quo. The new road bypassed Sullivan Center and only connected with one Sullivan highway that crossed Otter Brook near the junction with Granite Lake Brook. There a road from Nelson came down Apple Hill Road, crossed Otter Brook at Nathaniel Mason's sawmill and climbed the steep and seasonally impassable hill to Sullivan Center. The farms along the rest of the proposed right-of-way were all served by roads that led out of the valley toward Sullivan Center. As far as Sullivan was concerned, the new "Concord" road would serve only people in Nelson and Stoddard, but Sullivan would be responsible for its construction and maintenance within Sullivan's borders.

The court, however, granted Hardy's petition and ordered the road constructed within two years. Wardwell apparently coordinated a number of appeals to delay the court order. When that tactic failed, the March 1832 Sullivan Town Meeting voted to discontinue the highway and to petition the court to approve the town's action. Of course the court rejected the petition. The town ended up spending about \$1200 on its portion of the road—including its legal fees and the purchase of land—which undoubtedly left a lot of bitter feelings.

However, as Josiah Seward notes in the Sullivan town history, the Concord Road was "...by far the most important and useful road ever built through the place...." Within ten years Asa Wilson had constructed his tannery next to the Concord Road and the village of East Sullivan that we know today began to appear. The direct road to Keene (or Munsonville, South Stoddard, and Concord) made for easy shipment of finished lumber and other wood products from the growing mill complex. Further the problems associated with inter-community highways led to the creation of the County Road Commission to end disputes between towns. Eventually the N.H. State highway system succeeded the county system around 1908.

Today, we are concerned about many more factors than simply connecting communities. Still, it's instructive to review how our ancestors dealt with the problems of change. Noah Hardy proved to be a visionary and the road he called for led to the development of East Sullivan. Hopefully, the solution to the problem of the bridge over Otter Brook will lead to a brighter future.

Public Notice

The Sullivan Public Library Board of Trustees will hold their monthly meetings on May 8, June 12 and July 10, 2014 at 7 PM at the library. The purpose of the meetings will be to formally receive any donations, hear reports, and conduct any business related to the administration of the library. As always, the public is welcome.

NEWS FROM THE SULLIVAN TOWN OFFICES

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR

Please note that the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office will be closed on Wednesday May the 7th for training.

Attention Sullivan's Canine Residents: Please remind your family that it is time again for you to be licensed. Tell them that you don't want to go without your rabies shot and you definitely don't want to break the law and have a criminal record. You love and protect your family and you just need a few moments from them to make sure you stay healthy and legal. They still have a couple of weeks left before a warrant will be processed and the sheriff's office notified. So come on family, stand by your dog.

FROM THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Summer Meeting Schedule Begins

The Board of Selectmen will be re-implementing a change in their meeting schedule beginning May 1 through October, 2014. The Board will meet the first and third Mondays of each month at 6:30 in Town Hall.

Get on the Agenda for a Selectmen's Meeting

If you have an item to discuss with the Selectmen one of the easiest ways to do that is to contact the Administrative Assistant and request to be placed on the Board's next agenda. The Administrative Assistant may ask you a few questions so that the Selectmen are prepared to assist you as soon as possible or you may prefer to send an email or write a letter/note describing your item. The phone number for the Selectmen's office is 847-3316 (Tuesday-Thursday, 10AM to 2PM) or the email address is TownofSullivan@myfairpoint.net.

Deadline to Submit Item for a Selectmen meeting – Thursday prior

It is a goal of the Selectmen to post its business agenda in advance of each meeting so those folks in town who are interested in attending a meeting know what topics will generally be discussed. As a result, it will be necessary to observe a deadline to submit an item for a Selectmen meeting. That deadline is noon of the Thursday prior to a meeting.

The Board of Selectmen recognize this is a new way of doing business here in Sullivan but it is one that we hope will encourage transparency and participation as well as allowing the Selectmen some preparation time to better address issues. The Board appreciates your cooperation, patience and suggestions in this new endeavor.

New Administrative Assistant

Please help the Board of Selectmen welcome Jessica Nichols as our new Administrative Assistant. Jessica lives here in Sullivan with her family and has chosen Town Hall as her means to re-enter the workforce. There are lots of things to be done and Jessica will be helping the Selectmen accomplish its goals as well as serving the public. Feel free to stop in and introduce yourself to Jessica Tuesday through Thursday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, or, if you have business to conduct with the Selectmen, give Jessica a call at 847-3316.

Taxpayer Assistance – Low and Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief

The State of New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration offers assistance to lessen the economic burden of the State Education Property Tax for eligible property owners.

An eligible applicant is a person who is:

- Single with adjusted gross income equal to or less than \$20,000; or
- Married head of NH household with adjusted gross income less than or equal to \$40,000; and
- Owns a homestead subject to the State Education Property Tax; and
- Has resided in that homestead on April 1 of the year for which the claim is made.

The filing period of tax relief is after May 1 but no later than June 30.

To obtain an application (form DP-8), property owners can contact the Department of Revenue Administration at (603) 230-5920 (press prompt 2, then prompt 2 again); or go online to www.nh.gov/revenue click on forms and instructions, scroll down to low and moderate program, fill in the form, print it off and send it to the State; or stop by Town Hall to pick up a blank form.

PLANNING BOARD NEEDS NEW MEMBERS

New planning board members will find the updating of the Sullivan Master Plan a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the town. One chapter has been updated and reviewed, and more are ready for the board's review. Join us for insights into your community. We meet the first Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. in the town hall.
Steve Hamilton, Chairman

ENERGY-SAVING IDEAS FROM THE ANNUAL ENERGY CONFERENCE AND ELSEWHERE

Now that spring is here, there is time to plan to reduce heat loss in our homes. With rising propane and oil costs (both about \$3.80 gallon in early April), keeping warm air from leaking out of our homes is paramount to saving energy. "Most homes in the United States don't have enough insulation and have significant air leaks. In fact, if you added up all the leaks, holes and gaps in a typical home's envelope, it would be the equivalent of having a window open every day of the year" from the Energy Star website: http://www.energystar.gov/?c=home_sealing.hm_improvement_sealing
At the annual energy conference April 12, to which three members of the energy committee went, some of the suggestions were as follows:

- programmable thermostats save much fuel
- PSNH will help with insulation costs, including a \$100 energy audit <https://www.psnh.com/homerenovations/>
- regional collaboration can save money when purchasing fuel, etc. for municipal use

Solar proponents at the conference argued that distributed energy generation makes most sense because 30% of power generated and sent to customers is lost in transmission, so creating your own energy from the sun at home makes sense. Setting up solar panels to produce more than your household needs will give you ability to bank energy with PSNH by net-metering (getting credit for whatever surplus energy your panels produce and send back to utility) BUT, don't put in solar panels without energy efficiency enhancing hardware and software otherwise a bank of panels will conduct only the current in the worst panel. Example: A cloud goes by and obscures part of the panels: without enhancement 30% output and with enhancement 96% output. Incentives for installing solar panels include rebates up to 50% of the cost of installation from the Public Utilities Commission of NH
<http://www.puc.state.nh.us/sustainable%20Energy/RenewableEnergyRebates-SREG.html>

Think about how you can conserve energy and save money next winter. Go to the PSNH website: <https://www.psnh.com/SaveEnergyMoney/For-Home/Energy-Saving-Programs-and-Rebates.aspx>, which contains many suggestions, including financial support, for helping reduce energy consumption in your home.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection!

A great opportunity to clean toxic wastes from your basement, workbench, garage, and cupboards.

Spring 2014

Sat. May 10 Wed. May 14 Sat May 17

Sat. June 14 Wed. June 18 Sat. June 28

All collections run 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Keene Recycling Center, 55 Old Summit Road, Keene

What to Bring

Products marked toxic, poison, corrosive, irritant, hazardous, flammable, danger. If you think it's hazardous, bring it up.

What Not to Bring: empty containers (can be recycled), latex paint, ammunition, fireworks, radioactive materials, make-up & toiletries

Other Information: Containers must be labeled as to their contents. No containers larger than 10 gallons will be accepted.

Collection takes approximately 10 minutes from time of arrival.

DO NOT MIX PRODUCTS!!!

QUESTIONS: Please call 352-5739

WHAT ARE HAZARDOUS HOUSEHOLD MATERIALS?

Look in any storage cabinet in your home. Do you see products such as paint thinner, spot remover, oven cleaner, furniture polish, drain opener, pool chemicals and hair spray? These products are hazardous because they contain chemicals that are corrosive, explosive, reactive, flammable or toxic.

When you look at these products you might not immediately recognize hazardous products by their name. When you see words like pesticide, acid, fungicide, caustic, herbicide, or solvent, you know they are hazardous. But, sometimes the name may not tell you anything about the product. Read the label, especially the instructions, carefully.

Unfortunately, the absence of these words does not guarantee the product is without hazards. For example, methyl alcohol (found in some glass cleaners) can cause blindness if ingested, but may not require a warning if it makes up less than 4% of a product. Additionally, health effects from long-term exposure may not even be considered in the labeling requirements.

WHAT ARE MERCURY CONTAINING PRODUCTS?

As of January 1, 2008, the disposal of mercury containing products at landfills, transfer stations and incinerators is prohibited. This means these items may not be disposed of as a solid waste with the "normal" garbage. The ban covers products including: thermometers, compact fluorescent light bulbs, fluorescent lamps, thermostats, mercury button cell batteries and switches & relays.

Homeowners and businesses alike are subject to this ban. However, the ban does not include the recycling of these items at our facility and we encourage consumers to bring them for recycling along with their other recyclables. Legal disposal options include:

- Collection and Recycling at Municipal Facilities
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events

SOME ITEMS OF INTEREST...

Keene Farmers Market

Tuesday and Saturday from 9 - 1:00

Starting the first weekend in May through the last weekend in October, behind the Colonial Theater in Keene.

Strolling of the Heifers - Brattleboro, VT

June 7th

<http://www.strollingoftheheifers.com/>

Relay for Life - Monadnock Regional High School

June 20-21

http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLCY14NE?pg=entry&fr_id=59632

QUILTING TO END FOR THE SEASON

The Sullivan Sew & Sews will have their last get-together of the season on May 19th, the Monday before Memorial Day weekend. We hope to see you in the fall!

NELSON SCHOOL SPRING CALENDAR

- May 2** Nelson School Fiddle Recital - Children who take Strings Lessons are performing
Keene Public Library
6:30 – 8:30
- May 3** Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser - Sponsored by the students in grades 1 and 2
Nelson School
8:00 – 11:30
- May 14** Science Fair - Students in grades 3,4, 5 & 6 will have their science projects on display and will present them
Nelson School
6:00 -7:00 p.m.
- May 28** Mountain Day - mountain to be determined
8:30 -12:30
- Jun 3** 6th grade picnic - Sixth grade students from Marlow, Nelson and Harrisville gather together to begin to establish friendships in anticipation of the transition to KMS
Wheelock Park
10:30 -1:30
- Jun 5** Shadow Day - Sixth graders take the KHS/KMS bus to KMS to shadow a sixth grader for the day
Keene Middle School
All day
- Jun 5** Jump Up Day – Students who will be in Nelson next year will spend time in next year's classroom
- Jun 6** Sixth Grade – Trip to be determined
All Day - Students choose where they are going, what they are doing, and where they will be eating. This funded by the fund raising efforts of the class over the years. This year the Nelson PTO will be supplementing this fund due to the fact that the sixth graders from Sullivan were not here since kindergarten and did not have the opportunity to bank money into the account.
- Jun 9** Field Day - Students from Harrisville, Marlow & Nelson are included in this tri-school Field Day
Otter Brook or Wheelock Park
9:00-1:30
- Jun 13** Graduation
Nelson School
10:00
- Jun 16** Last day of school

SULLIVAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH Sunday Morning Service 9:30 am

The Sullivan Church is still in a period of transition while the search for a new pastor continues. In the meantime we're very fortunate to have a variety of excellent pastors in our pulpit and invite you to join us on Sunday mornings for worship and hymn singing.

Visiting pastors for May & June.

May 11 Rev. Deborah Hill
May 18 Rev. Don Hashem
May 25 Rev. Lew Stone
June 1 Rev. Don Hashem
June 8 Rev. Diane Durgin
June 15 Rev. D'Vorah Kelley
June 22 Rev. Don Hashem
June 29 Rev. Ivy Merrill

FROM NELSON...ICE CREAM SOCIAL

The Nelson Congregational Church, Marlborough Federated Church and Dublin Community Church youth will be sponsoring an **Ice Cream Social** to be held at the Nelson Congregational Church on **Sunday June 1 at 2:00**. Come enjoy the entertainment of three Morris Dance teams: Harrisville Morris Women, Jack-in-the-Green and The Ladies of the Rolling Pin, as well as local singers. We'll have delicious ice cream from Piazza's, homemade chocolate and butterscotch sauce, a plethora of toppings, and of course, whipped cream on top, all for \$5. The proceeds from this ice cream social will go toward sending youth from all three churches on a mission service trip this summer to Appalachia where they will be doing home repair for some of the poorest families in our country. Come enjoy fun entertainment, yummy ice cream sundaes and offer your support for a great cause!

SULLIVAN WEBSITES

<http://ci.sullivan.nh.us/>

Be sure to check out the **Sullivan web page** for coming events, department and School District minutes, times of meetings, town & School District officers and how to contact them as well as much more. Keep informed!

The **Sullivan Newsletter is also on line** via a link on the Sullivan web page. Don't want to type in the websites mentioned in the newsletter? Go to the town website, then newsletter and just click on them.

FACEBOOK FOR SULLIVAN

Memories of Sullivan? Join a group of all ages who are participating in the "I'm from Sullivan and I Remember" page. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ImFromSullivan/> Unfortunately, Facebook recently changed their rules and you now have to be a member of Facebook to participate or even read it.

The library is on Facebook. Librarian, Denise McFarland has created a wonderful Facebook page with all sorts of information about the library as well as many interesting tidbits in general. <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Sullivan-Public-Library/77424404019>

Sullivan School District has a Facebook page to keep you informed about many things that are happening at the schools the Sullivan students attend and school board meeting information. <https://www.facebook.com/SullivanSchoolDistrict>

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SULLIVAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Sunday Services 9:30 a.m.
Deacon – Libby Beede 847-3269
Church rentals - Chip & Kathy Woodbury 357-3445

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Try one of our breakfast sandwiches!
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NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

The Sullivan Newsletter is published 6 times a year. It is mailed free of charge to Sullivan residents and interested landowners/taxpayers. Subscriptions are \$5 a year for non-taxpayers. Classifieds are \$10 a year, \$2.50 per issue or \$45 per page. Mail to PO Box 110; Sullivan, NH 03445 or drop it off at the town hall with town clerk Mary Hull or administrative assistant. **Deadline for the next newsletter is 20 June.**

News items may be left in the Sullivan Library Book Box, mailed to PO Box 110 Sullivan 03445 (labeled Newsletter) or e-mailed (preferred method) to: bcummings@myfairpoint.net.

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SULLIVAN NEWSLETTER
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